

AGENDA



Thursday, February 26, 2009

**Economic Growth & Redevelopment Services
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION**

Item No. 14

Subject: Authorize the negotiation and execution of a professional services agreement with Chris Levack, Austin, TX, in an amount not to exceed \$86,000, for the fabrication/installation of an artwork component in the combination skate park and BMX bike course to be located next to the Austin Recreation Center, near 12th Street and Lamar Blvd.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Capital Budget of the Parks and Recreation Department.

Fiscal Note: A fiscal note is attached.

For More Information: Megan Crigger, AIPP Administrator, 974-9312; Meghan Turner, AIPP Coordinator, 974-9314

Boards and Commission Action: The Art in Public Place Panel approved the artist's final design on November 3, 2008 (5-1-0); The Austin Arts Commission unanimously approved the artist's final design on November 17, 2008.

PROJECT SUMMARY

The new construction of a combination skate park and BMX bike course will be located on an acre next to the Austin Recreation Center, near 12th Street and Lamar. The artwork component is intended to provide a ride-able element in the park and an artist designed shade structure. A Request for Statement of Intent with Qualifications was issued to artists living within 100 miles of Austin, with a submission deadline of March 28, 2008. The Selection Panel and Advisors met on April 4, 2008 and reviewed the qualifications of 26 eligible artists/artist teams. The Selection Panel and Advisors selected four finalists and interviewed them on April 11, 2008. The selection panel recommended Chris Levack for commission and Johnny Walker as the alternate. The Art in Public Places Panel approved the selection panel's recommendation of artist and alternate on April 14, 2008 (4-0-1). The Arts Commission unanimously approved the Art in Public Places Panel recommendation of artist and alternate on April 21, 2008.

During the design phase, the artist, in collaboration with the Design Team, was tasked to design a shade structure for the park, in addition to the ride-able sculpture. Designs for both were approved by the Art in Public Places Panel and the Arts Commission in November 2008.

Selection Panel:

Dana Younger, Artist and Co-Owner, Blue Genie Art Industries
Beatrice Thomas, Artist and AIPP Panel Chair
Rachel Koper, Artist and Manager, Gallery Lombardi

Advisors:

Tony Arnold, PARD, Project Manager
Gary Gregson, PARD, Project Coordinator
Laura Esparza, PARD, Cultural Affairs Manager
Jerolyn Rainosek, PARD, Austin Recreation Center Facility Manager
Laurie Pevey, Owner, Tekgnar Skate Shop

Jared Ficklin, Austin Public Skate park Action Committee Member
Seth Johnson, Austin Public Skate park Action Committee Member
Joe Rich, BMX Community Member (not present at selection)